AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

detecting an activation of an input device of a computing system;

in response to detecting the activation, spinning up a hard disk coupled to the computing system in anticipation of a read request or a write request that has not yet been generated~~a system detecting an occurrence of a predetermined event, wherein the predetermined event is a cache of the hard disk reaching a predetermined level of dirty data, the predetermined level is to be reached before the cache of the hard disk is full of dirty data; and~~

~~in response to detecting the event, spinning up a hard disk of the system prior to a request to exchange data with the hard disk~~.

2-3.   (Canceled).

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting an activation of an input device ~~the predetermined event~~ further includes detecting a presence of a system user.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting an activation of an input device ~~the predetermined event~~ further includes detecting ~~one of~~a movement ~~and activation~~ of ~~one of an input device and~~ a pointing device.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting an activation of an input device ~~the predetermined event~~ further includes detecting ~~movement of a mouse or~~ the activation of a key on a keyboard.

7.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions which when executed cause a system to perform a method comprising of:

detecting an activation of an input device of the system;

in response to detecting the activation, spinning up a hard disk coupled to the system in anticipation of a read request or a write request that has not yet been generated~~the detecting an occurrence of a predetermined event, wherein the predetermined even is a cache of the hard disk reaching a predetermined level of dirty data, the predetermined level is to be reached before the cache of the hard disk is full of dirty data; and~~

~~in response to detecting the event, spinning up a hard disk of the system prior to a request to exchange data with the hard disk.~~

8-9.   (Canceled).

10.   (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 7, wherein <u>detecting an activation of an input device</u>~~the predetermined event~~ further includes detecting a presence of a system user.

11.   (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 7, wherein <u>detecting an activation of an input device</u>~~the predetermined event~~ further includes detecting ~~one of~~<u>a</u> movement ~~and activation~~ of ~~one of an input device and~~ <u>a</u> pointing device.

12.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a processor;
a non-volatile cache coupled to the processor<u>;</u>
<u>a hard disk coupled to the processor;</u>
<u>an input device coupled to the processor;</u> and
a machine readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions which when executed cause the system to perform a method comprising of:
<u>detecting an activation of the input device;</u>
<u>in response to detecting the activation, spinning up the hard disk in anticipation of a read request or a write request that has not yet been generated</u>~~detecting an occurrence of a predetermined event, wherein the predetermined even is a cache of the hard disk reaching a predetermined level of dirty data, the predetermined level is to be reached before the cache of the hard disk is full of dirty data; and~~

~~in response to detecting the event, spinning up a hard disk of the system prior to a request to exchange data with the hard disk~~.

13-14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, <u>wherein the input device includes a camera that is activated by detecting</u> ~~wherein the predetermined event further includes detecting~~ a presence of a system user.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, <u>wherein the input device includes a pointing device that is activated by detecting a movement</u>~~wherein the predetermined event further includes detecting one of movement and activation of one of an input device and a pointing device~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein <u>the input device includes a keyboard that is activated by</u> ~~the predetermined event includes~~ detecting ~~movement of a mouse or~~<u>the</u> activation of a key on ~~a~~<u>the</u> keyboard.

18. (Canceled).